IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

DKT NO. P6335.01CPA

Nora B. AGHASSI et al.

SER NO.: 09/515,283 RECEIVE Proup Art Unit: 1641

FILED AS A CPA: October 1, 2001

APR 2 4 2002

FOR:

COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR TECH CENTER 1600/290 Denniner: James L. Grun

TREATING TISSUE SAMPLES

TO: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE **TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 01/29/2002**

APR 2 4 2002

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In response to the Office Action of January 29, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

On Page 11 in the penultimate line of the third full paragraph delete "dehydrate" and substitute --dihydrate—therefor.

On Page 4 at the end of the first sentence of the first full paragraph add the followings:

-- In another embodiment the composition preferably includes an aqueous solution of SIMPLE GREEN. Simple Green has been described in U.S. Patent No. 5,856,289 as: by weight about 5.8% ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, about 3.75% nonylphenol ethoxyate, about 1.5% tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and about 88.95% water. SIMPLE GREEN is a non-toxic, biodegradable, environmentally safe detergent concentrate which may provide a mixture of emulsifiers. The composition may include a buffering agent. The pH of the solution is preferably adjusted to lie between 5 and 10 by addition of an acid or a base. The composition preferably substantially simultaneously: (i) removes the embedding medium from the tissue; (ii) improves immunohistochemical staining of the tissue in comparison to tissue that has not been contacted with the composition; (iii) substantially hydrates the tissue.--